

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-11 RSC-01

OIC-04 AID-20 SPM-01 HEW-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CU-04 /205 W

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R 251945Z JAN 74

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2469

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SPOP, UN

SUBJ: WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS

SUMMARY. FROM MEETINGS WITH UN OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE (WPC) APPEARS PREPARATIONS ON SCHEDULE. US SUGGESTIONS ON COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENDA ACCEPTED AS WELL AS OUR PROPOSAL FOR MEETING IN BUCHAREST IMMEDIATELY BEFORE WPC. REPRESENTATIONS MADE TO BOTH SECRETARY-GENERAL CARRILLO FLORES AND DRAFTER OF WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION (WPPA) REGARDING WHAT WE CONSIDER TO BE A DOCUMENT STILL TO LONG (19 PAGES) AND SICRURSIVE, ALBEIT IT A CLEVERLY CONSTRUCTED AND OCCASIONALLY BOLD PRESENTATION. PARALLEL ACTIVITIES AT CONFERENCE MAY INCLUDE FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, DANCE, POETRY, AS WELL AS VERY AMBITIOUS AND EXPENSIVE MULTI-MEDIA PRESENTATION ON POPULATION PROBLEMS. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING WEEK OF JANUARY 16-23, S/PM, USUN, AND MEMBER USDEL TO UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL HAVE USED OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE IN DEPTH U.S. CONCERNS WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY THE WPPA. MOST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOTABLE WAS MEETING WITH CARRILLO FLORES DURING WHICH

IT BECAME APPARENT THAT HE HAD NOT RECEIVED AND READ THE LATEST VERSION OF THE US. PROPOSALS FOR THE FORMAT AND SUBSTANCE FOR THE PLAN OF ACTION WHICH HAD BEEN HAND DELIVERED TO HIS SECRETARIAT DURING HIS ABSENCE ON DECEMBER 18. HE READ AND REACTED IN OUR PRESENCE. IT WAS CLEAR MR. CARRILLO FLORES KNEW WHAT WE WANTED IN THE WPPA, BUT HAS GIVEN US ALL HE IS COMFORTABLE IN GIVING FOR THE PRESENT. WHEN PRESSED AS TO WHY HE IS WILLING FOR THE DRAFT WPPA TO HAVE IMPERATIVE LANGUAGE ("SHOULD") FOR MORTALITY REDUCTION GOALS BUT NOT FOR FERTILITY REDUCTION GOALS (COUNTRIES "MAY WISH TO CONSIDER" IS THE LANGUAGE WHICH CARRILLO FLORES HIMSELF INSISTS ON REINSERTING IN EVERY DRAFT), HE SAID BECAUSE EVERYONE AGREES ON MORTALITY REDUCTION. HE ALSO SAID BASED ON CONVERSATIONS HE HAD HAD HE CONVINCED FRENCH AND EASTERN EUROPEANS WOULD NOT AGREE TO STRONG LANGUAGE ON FERTILITY REDUCTION. WE SAID NOT SURE THAT WAS THE CASE. IF SO, WORK NEEDED TO BE DONE AND, IN ANY CASE, NO ONE NATION OR SMALL GROUP OF NATIONS SHOULD BE ALLOWED SET LEVEL. CARRILLO FLORES SAID THE PRESENT DRAFT HAD BEEN SUBJECT THREE LONG MEETINGS WITH SECRETARIAT AND HAD MET WITH COMPLETE APPROVAL WITHIN THE UN SECRETARIAT, INCLUDING USG DESEYNES, WITH ONE EXCEPTION. THE EXCEPTION WAS AN INDIAN (WHOSE NAME HE COULD NOT RECALL) WHO SAID THE POPULATION PROBLEM WAS SO SEVERE THAT GOVERNMENTS MAY HAVE TO CONSIDER REVISING THE TRADITIONAL HUMAN RIGHT TO DETERMINE FAMILY SIZE. CARRILLO FLORES WAS OBVIOUSLY SHOCKED BY THIS POINT OF VIEW AS HE IS MOST COMFORTABLE WITH WELL ESTABLISHED UN DOCTRINE. THE USG COMPLETED ITS REPRESENTATION TO CARRILLO FLORES BY INDICATING THAT WE MAY SURFACE OUR OWN VERSION OF A DRAFT WPPA AT THE SPECIAL SESSION MEETING OF THE POPULATION COMMISSION IN MARCH AS WE CONTINUE TO BE DISSATISFIED WITH THE FORMAT AND CERTAIN SUBSTANTIVE EMPHASES AS WELL.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH TABBARAH OF THE POPULATION DIVISION WHO IS CHIEF DRAFTER OF WPPA WE OBTAINED REVISED DRAFT VERSION WHICH WILL GO TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF EXPERTS IN FEBRUARY (WHOSE COMMENTS WILL BE GIVEN TO THE POPULATION COMMISSION) AND TO THE POPULATION COMMISSION IN MARCH. THE LONG VERSION APPEARS MORE OR LESS ACCEPTABLE AS A BACKGROUND DOCUMENT FOR THE WPPA. THE LONGISH SUMMARY OF THE WPPA IS, IN FACT, MEANT TO BE THE PLAN OF ACTION. WE INFORMED TABBARAH THAT HE HAD IGNORED THE POPULATION COMMISSION'S INSTRUCTIONS TO PREPARE A SHORT, FOCUSED DOCUMENT AND THAT HE HAD CONTINUED THE

SAME FORMAT EVEN THOUGH SEVERAL COMMISSION DELEGATIONS HAD SPECIFICALLY RECOMMENDED TWO-AND THREE-PART FORMATS. HE SAID HE HAD CONTINUED WITH BUILDING THE WPPA AROUND SIX DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES AND DE SEYNES HAD CONGRATULATED HIM ON STICKING TO THE SUBJECT OF POPULATION. APPARENTLY TABBARAH IS NOT JUST BEING OBSTINATE OR EGO-INVOLVED IN HIS PRODUCT, HE FEELS HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO GET ACCEPTED A NUMBER OF CONTROVERSIAL POINTS FAVORED BY THE US. BY SUBMERGING THEM IN DEMOGRAPHIC FINDINGS (EG. RELATING FERTILITY REDUCTION GOALS TO THE POPULATION POLICIES ALREADY ESTABLISHED IN MOST OF THE LARGE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES). TABBARAH ALSO SAID DE SEYNES CONSIDERED THE DRAFT WPPA AS "BOLD WITHOUT BEING OFFENSIVE." TABBARAH ASKED THE US. TO SUPPORT THE DRAFT WPPA RATHER THAN FLOAT OUR OWN. HE SAID BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR ALMEIDA HAD SAID BRAZIL WOULD TABLE A WPPA RESTRICTING THE PLAN TO RESEARCH IF THE US. DID. TABBARAH SAID ALMEIDA WAS CONSTANTLY ON THE PHONE TO HIM FROM BRAZIL WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR THE WPPA. THE SECRETARIAT HAS ALSO RECEIVED WRITTEN SUGGESTIONS FROM ALMEIDA WHICH TEND TO SUPPORT THE PRESENT DRAFT. CARRILLO FLORES HAS ADDED ALMEIDA TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS. WE COMMENTED THAT WE HAD NOT KNOWN BEFORE THAT ALMEIDA WAS CONSIDERED A POPULATION EXPERT. TABBARAH BELIEVES THE BRAZILIANS HAVE COME A LONG WAY AND WILL COME FURTHER.

4. TABBARAH'S PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS ON A NUMBER OF OTHER SUBJECTS RELATED TO THE WPPA: (A) THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS' CONSULTATIONS ON THE WPPA MAY NOT BE AS FRUITFUL AS DESIRABLE AS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES DO NOT SEEM TO UNDERSTAND POPULATION VERY WELL (HE BRIEFED THE COMMISSIONS' SECRETARIES ON JANUARY 15); (B) HE DOES NOT CONCEIVE OF THE DRAFT WPPA AS CLOSED TO SECRETARIAT REVISION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNTIL THE ADVENT OF THE WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE; (C) THE US. SHOULD NOT PUSH TARGETS OR OTHER CONTROVERSIAL POINTS TOO HARD, TO SOON AS ACCEPTANCE OF THESE POINTS BY OTHER COUNTRIES OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS MAY GET MOST OF WHAT WE WANT; AND (D) NO UN STRATEGY, RESOLUTION, OR OTHER KIND OF DOCUMENT DETERMINES PRIORITIES AMONG ITS RECOMMENDATIONS AND HE DOES NOT BELIEVE ANY GOVERNMENT INCLUDING THE US. CAN GET THE CONFERENCE TO PRIORITIZE THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS (TWICE HE CITED THE STRONG OPPOSITION OF GHANA TO THIS CONCEPT AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE POPULATION COMMISSION). TABBARAH LEAVES CLEAR IMPRESSION OF DESIRE TO PRODUCE A STRONG WPPA. IT IS NOT CLEAR IF HE WILL EVER ABANDON BYZANTINE FOR EXPLICIT PRESENTATION, BUT WE CONSIDER IT FORTUNATE CHIEF DRAFTER HAS SOME SENSE OF POLITICS AS WELL AS THE SUBJECT.

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5. DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL FOR WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE RALPH TOWNLEY SHOWED US PROPOSED TIME-TABLE PLENARY AND COMMITTEES. IT FOLLOWED CLOSELY AND ELABORATED THE VIEWS WE HAD EXPRESSED TO HIM EARLIER. TOWNLEY ALSO INCORPORATED OUR RECOMMENDATION THAT THERE BE ARRANGEMENTS FOR INFORMAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION IN BUCHAREST WEEK PRIOR TO CONFERENCE REGARDING WPPA AND ORGANIZATION OF CONFERENCE. ALL THESE MATTERS WILL COME BEFORE POPULATION COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL IN MARCH.

6. TOWNLEY REPORTED THAT THE PARALLEL ACTIVITIES TO THE WPC (POPULATION TRIBUNE OF THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH POPULATION CONFERENCE, BOTH TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WPC IN BUCHAREST) WILL BE WELL-ORGANIZED AND THEY ARE SEEKING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM NON-UN SOURCES. SEVERAL PROPOSED ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE WPC ARE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF PREPARATIONS, MOST OF WHICH REQUIRE ADDITIONAL OR TOTAL FUNDING. SUCH RELATED ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: ENCOUNTER ON POPULATION FOR JOURNALISTS TO BE FUNDED BY UNFPA A SEMINAR FOR ANTHROPOLOGISTS ON CULTURAL CONSEQUENCES OF POPULATION CHANGE WHICH IS FULLY FUNDED EXCEPT FOR \$5,000; A WORLD POETRY FESTIVAL

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FOR WHICH A APPROACH IS BEING MADE TO THE JAPAN FUND;
DANCE AND RAMA GROUPS INCLUDING THE LITTLE THEATRE
OF THE DEAF WHICH WOULD BE ONLY AMERICAN PARTICIPATION
IN PROPOSED CULTURAL FESTIVAL RELATED TO WPC. ON THE
EXHIBITS FRONT PROPOSALS RANGE FROM FOLK-CRAFTS TO
A MULTI-MEDIA EXHIBIT. THE LATTER WOULD BE THE
EXHIBITION CENTERPIECE IN BUCHAREST'S LARGEST
PARK AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. ITS DIMENSION IS
SUGGESTED BY IT PRICE TAG OF \$475,000; IT IS STILL ON
SALE.
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